Library of Congress

INFORMATION BULLETIN

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Outdoor Noontime Concert Series at the Library Features the Nashville Bluegrass Band

The American Folklife Center of the Library of Congress presented the Nashville Bluegrass Band last week in its ongoing noontime summer concert series.

Bluegrass music from the beginning has been characterized by invention. It is a synthesis of breakdown and ragtime rhythms, hymns, and spiritual singing, gospel harmonies, blues tonalities, swing improvisation, and jazz orchestration. At its best, it has been neither wholly derivative nor wholly innovative, but a kind of search for musical roots—a search which, as it reaches back to the traditional mountain string band and the Baptist Church, or to African-American gospel quartets, old-fashioned popular songs, country-and-western music, and to early bluegrass itself, strives to reinvent the startling and paradoxical coupling of the archaic and contemporary that characterized Bill Monroe's original Bluegrass Boys of 1946.

In capturing the spirit as well as the letter of bluegrass music

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Bluegrass *(Cont. from p. 289)*
few have succeeded as well as the Nashville Bluegrass Band, which in the five years of its existence has created with taste, ingenuity, imagination, discipline, and sheer power an authentic and original bluegrass sound.

The integrity of its variegated repertory, which reaches even into early rock-and-roll, testifies to the fact that while it redraws some of the customary musical boundaries, and pushes back a few musical frontiers, the lines of its development begin at the original sources.

Neptune Plaza Concerts, presented by the American Folklife Center of the Library of Congress in cooperation with the National Council for the Traditional Arts, began in 1977. Free concerts are held for the public on the front steps of the Library's Thomas Jefferson Building—the Neptune Plaza—on the third Thursday of each month between April and October, beginning at 12 noon. The concerts are broadcast live on local radio station WAMU, 88.5 FM.

The next concerts in the series are music from Colombia, Ivan Cuesta y Sus Vallenatos Auténticos, marking National Hispanic Heritage Week on September 21, and Black Gospel from Washington, D.C., on October 19. Previous concerts this season have featured Eddie Blazonczyk and the Versatones, Chicago-style polka music; Greg Hooven and the Back Step Band, music of the Blue Ridge Mountains; and Hita Brata Roy and Ganga, music from the foothills of the Himalayas.

The *Library of Congress Information Bulletin* is issued weekly by the Information Office of the Library of Congress and distributed free of charge to publicly supported libraries and research institutions, academic libraries, learned societies, and allied organizations in the United States.

Comparable institutions and organizations in other countries may arrange to receive the *Bulletin* on an exchange basis by applying in writing to the Library's Exchange and Gift Division. All other correspondence should be addressed to the LC *Information Bulletin*, Information Office, Library of Congress, Washington, DC 20540.

Bruce Tapper, Editor

Library Licenses MARC Database

The Library of Congress will issue licenses to all subscribers to the MARC Distribution Service (MDS) beginning January 1, 1990. Available through the Cataloging Distribution Service (CDS) of the Library, MDS is the Library's program for sharing machine-readable cataloging (MARC) records from its complete database through a range of individual magnetic tape services.

Within the United States, the new licensing agreement will have no direct effect on institutions that use the Library's MARC records in providing library services. End-users will be able to use the records from the Library's MARC database as they have done in the past.

The intent of the MDS licensing agreement is to ensure that users outside the United States contribute a fair share to the long-term maintenance of a large, complex bibliographic database and the development of new distribution services. This contribution will safeguard the value of the MARC database for all who benefit by it. The agreement is an extension of the Library's action in 1986 of copyrighting its records for use outside the United States. Licensing helps the Library enforce its copyright more effectively.

The primary impact of the MDS licensing agreement is on the Library's overseas customers and U.S. customers with non-U.S. clients who act as brokers of Library of Congress MARC records outside the United States. These customers repackage and resell the Library's MARC data abroad.

The major thrust of the agreement concerns the *wholesale* and *selective redistribution* of MARC records. As defined in the agreement, a wholesale redistributor is a customer who redistributes at least 50 percent of the records distributed by CDS in a given file during the subscription year. A selective redistributor is a customer who redistributes less than 50 percent of the records distributed by CDS in a given file during the subscription year.

For more information about the MDS licensing agreement, contact Dominick Mormino, assistant customer services officer, Library of Congress, Cataloging Distribution Service, Washington, DC 20541; telephone: (202) 707-1309. For information about MDS, or to order the service, contact Library of Congress, Customer Services Section, Cataloging Distribution Service, Washington, DC 20541; telephone: (202) 707-6100.

The Library of Congress observes
TWO HUNDRED YEARS
Congress

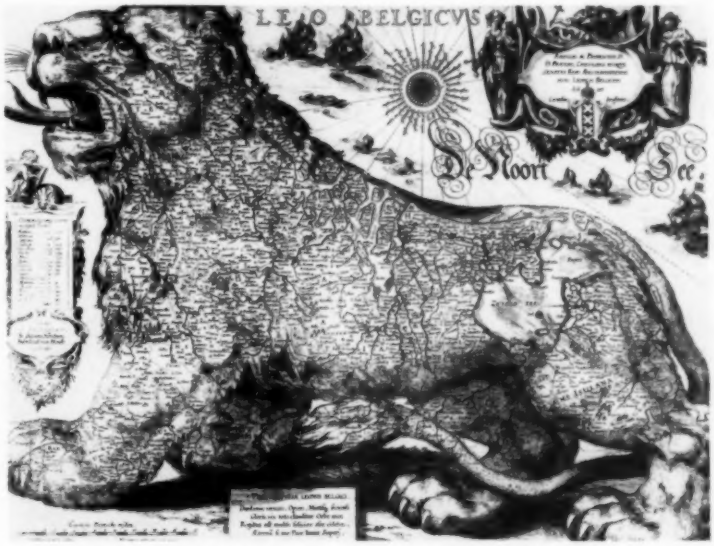
Opening September 29, **"To Make All Laws": The Congress of the United States, 1789–1989** is a comprehensive exhibition on the history of the Congress during the past 200 years, reviewing major achievements and legislative issues.

Madison Gallery, to February 18, 1990.

Dutch Collections in the Library of Congress

Today the Dutch collections of the Library of Congress comprise an estimated 150,000 items, with an annual increment of approximately 3,000 titles. Acquisitions include purchases, exchanges, and gifts.

Although a complete survey has never been made, comments from scholarly patrons indicate that the Library's collections of Dutch history and literature are among the most extensive in the United States. These collections support research on the postgraduate level in all areas of intellectual endeavor.



Leo Belgicus, map of the Low Countries interpreted as a lion. By Cornelis Jansson, published by Jodocus Hondius, Amsterdam, 1611.

First Acquisitions

The Library's Dutch collections began with the acquisition of Thomas Jefferson's personal library in 1815. Although Jefferson's European interest was primarily France, he collected works from other European countries, particularly as they pertained to America. Jefferson stated that he had standing orders during the whole time he was in Europe, visiting its principal book marts, particularly in Amsterdam, Frankfurt, Madrid, and London, "for such works relating to America as could not be found in Paris." The following items in the Jefferson Library attest to his interest in the area of the United Provinces of the Netherlands and Belgium: *Histoire de la Hollande 1609–1679* by Adrien Baillet, *History of the United Provinces, Histoire de la guerre de Flandres* by Famiano Strada, *Vie de Michel de Ruiter* by Adrien Richer, *History of the United Netherlands* by Lieuwe van Aitzema, *De Witt's State of Holland, History of the Treaty of Utrecht,* as well as *Hugenii Cosmotheoros.*

The Rare Book and Special Collections Division has wide and rich holdings of early books from the Low Countries. Included in an early acquisition from Peter Force in 1867 were a small number of Dutch books. These collections increased over the years with special concentration on Dutch exploration. With the acquisition of the John B. Thacher Collection in 1927 and the Otto Vollbehr Collection in 1930, the division added many examples of the work of 15th-century presses in Holland and Belgium. The finest examples of the printing arts came to the Library with the Lessing J. Rosenwald Collection. The collection is especially strong in early Dutch illustrated books and includes 160 books from the library of the Dukes of Arenberg.

Systematic Exchanges Begin

Nevertheless, no systematic attempt to develop a Dutch-language collection was made by the Library until 1867, when the exchange of public documents with foreign governments was provided for by a joint resolution of Congress. The Netherlands was among the first countries to respond. The Librarian of Congress, Ainsworth Rand Spofford, recognized that the Library was "greatly deficient" in foreign government publications and requested legislation to facilitate the exchange of public documents with foreign countries. Although international conferences on exchanges at Paris and Brussels in 1885 failed to bring agreement from key European governments, an agent for the Smithsonian Institution in Europe was able to secure large numbers of public documents for shipment to the Library of Congress. The official publications that the Dutch government contributed contain much valuable information on the history, legislation, and general condition of that country. In 1891 an International Copyright Law made Belgium one of the first countries

entitled to benefits of copyright in the United States. By 1910 President William Howard Taft had signed a general copyright proclamation declaring reciprocal copyright relations with Belgium.

In 1874 Librarian Spofford remarked that "there is almost no work within the vast range of literature and science which may not at some time prove useful to the legislature of a great nation." With this in mind, Library officials in 1899 began to acquire a large body of Dutch-language literature rich in original historical and literary materials. By 1901, 952 volumes dealing with the Netherlands were reported by the Librarian.

Manuscript map of Manhattan and vicinity (1639) drawn by Dutch West-Indies Company cartographer Johannes Vingboons (detail). Oriented with north at the right.

Early 20th-Century Efforts

According to the Annual Report of the Librarian of Congress for 1912, the Library made its first systematic effort that year to fill gaps in its European history collection and made a number of noteworthy acquisitions. The American Historical Association's Check List was used to build the collections of source material relating to European history. The position of European representative to the Library was established in 1926 with an office in Paris. The European representative had responsibility for acquiring material from England, France, Holland, and Spain. Want lists on various subjects such as history, economics, and general literature were sent to Paris. The office established contacts with dealers, collectors, scholars, and learned institutions.

On January 1, 1928, the international exchange service of the Netherlands was moved from Delft to the Royal Library at The Hague and established as an official agency. The American minister to the Netherlands helped to impress officials at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and at the Royal Library with the importance of having one copy of all the official publications of the Kingdom, including those of the Provinces, deposited regularly at the Library of Congress. Dutch material acquired in 1929 included "various volumes and bundles of the papers of the West India Company, of the Admiralty, of C.W.F. Dumas, of the Dutch factory at Desima [Deshima] at the time of Commodore Perry's visit to Japan, and especially correspondence of the Dutch ministers to the United States with the Secretary of the Dutch Republic and the Foreign Office of the Monarchy."

In that year, there was also an ongoing project in Dutch and Belgian archives that secured facsimiles of source material relating to American history. The project, which was funded by John D. Rockefeller and the Koninklijke Bibliotheek (Royal Library), allowed material in manuscript form, related to the early geographical history of North America, to be taken to the Rijksarchief for photographing. The acquisition of *Proces-verbaux des séances du Conseil provincial* from the Belgian provinces of East and West Flanders as an important addition to the Library's collections.

At The Hague, photocopying operations were nearly completed by April 1930. Among the collections included were the Algemeen Rijksarchief in The Hague, the Koninklijke Bibliotheek, Economisch Historisch Archief, and Departement van Buitenlandsche Zaken, as well as the Gemeentearchief at Rotterdam and the Gemeentearchief and Universiteitsbibliotheek at Amsterdam. Diplomatic papers were reproduced up to the year 1870 along with those of consular and official commercial agents and trading and colonizing companies, reports and records on emigration and ships' journals. All were materials of excellent quality.

The scholarly content of the Dutch collections was further enhanced in 1937, when the Bibliotheek de Technische Hoogeschool in Delft forwarded 246 academic publications including all available theses presented at that institution, and also in 1938, when the University of Groningen agreed to supply copies of its dissertations and academic publications. That same year, the University of Utrecht began forwarding copies of its theses.

World War II and After

During World War II, acquisition of Dutch publications was hampered but not entirely discontinued. By 1947 Librarian Luther Evans could report that the Library was able to procure 8,344 items from Belgium and 18,284 items from the Netherlands.

For a brief period there was a formal program in Dutch studies at the Library of Congress. The Netherlands Studies Unit, established in 1942, dealt with a diversity of subjects relating to the Netherlands and Netherlands East Indies. The unit's first major product was a 1945 bibliography of the Netherlands East Indies. *A Guide to Dutch Bibliographies* was published in 1951. The Netherlands Studies Unit was discontinued in 1947.

Music

The Music Division has as good a collection as any American library of the early printed editions of the music of Netherlands' composers Binchois, Ockeghem, des Pres, and Jacob Clement. Some of these collections were published by Phalese in Louvain and by Susato in Antwerp; others were published in Italy and Germany. The Music Division owns copies both of renowned collections including *Novum et Insigne Opus Musicum* (Nürnberg, Berg & Neuber, 1558), and of some of the most obscure *Il Primo Libro delli madrigali d'Orlando di Lassus...* (Rome, Dorico, 1560) of which there is only one other complete copy known.

Prints

The Prints and Photographs Division includes in its holdings a significant collection of approximately 500 posters and 200 fine prints published in the Netherlands. The prints date from the 15th century to the present, and the posters date from the 1890s "golden age" of the poster to the present, with the majority dating from the 1950s to the 1970s. The topics of the prints range from religious images and genre scenes to landscapes, portraits, and even modern abstract works. The posters include cultural events: exhibitions, films, and theater.

Maps

Preserved in the Library of Congress is the largest and most comprehensive collection in the Western Hemisphere of maps and atlases published in the Netherlands since the 16th century. The collection contains examples of the work of all the great Dutch publishing houses of the 16th through the 18th centuries. Of special significance is the excellent collection of editions of the *Theatrum Orbis Terrarum* first published in Antwerp in 1570 by Abraham Ortelius.

Also of special significance is the Library's fine collection of atlases produced by the great Flemish Renaissance geographer of the 16th century, Gerardus Mercator. The highlight of this collection is a fine copy, bound in contemporary brown leather, of the first edition of his *Atlas sive cosmographicae meditationes de fabrica mundi et fabricati figura* published in Duisburg in 1595. The world atlas was the culminating achievement of Mercator's long and active career as a teacher, geographer, astronomer, engraver, and publisher. This magnificent volume was the first uniform collection of maps to bear the title *Atlas*. From that date, in honor of Mercator and his work, most volumes of maps have used this term.

The greatest Dutch publishers of the 17th century were Willem Jansz Blaeu and his sons Cornelius and Joan. The Blaeu firm produced globes, sea charts, wall maps, and atlases, a significant number of which are represented in the collections of the Library of Congress. The Blaeu firm continued to increase the size of its magnificent atlases with new geographical information and maps. By 1662 its principal work, the *Atlas Maior*, was available with text in Dutch (9 vols.), French (12 vols.), German (9 vols.), Latin (11 vols.), and Spanish (10 vols.). All of these multi-volume sets, bound in contemporary vellum or velvet, are in the Library's collections.

—Margrit B. Krewson

STAFF NEWS

Meet "The Bird" at Family Day!

Library of Congress employees and their families and friends can meet the Baltimore Orioles Bird at **Family Day, Saturday, September 16,** 1–5 p.m., at the Madison Plaza.

The Bird will probably join in on one of the highlights of the Family Day children's activities—the Parade of Storybook Characters. For this event, parents should encourage their children to dress up as their favorite storybook character. At 3 p.m. all the "characters" will begin the parade in front of the stage on the Madison Plaza. The two-block parade route will bring them back to the Madison Plaza, where judges from the local press and theater companies will award prizes by age group for originality, faithfulness of character representation, and best group presentation.

Among the other activities planned for kids at Family Day are a children's art show, a bean bag toss, and other games. Under the Storytellers' Tree children will hear tales told to music and stories from the American, African, and Hispanic traditions. There will also be plenty of free food, balloons, and Family Day posters.

To volunteer to help with Family Day, call Kay Eisinger, Information Office, ext. 76203.

Library employees are urged to pick up tickets for Family Day in the Information Office, Room LM 105. **Note:** The ticket stubs—one per employee—will serve as entry tickets for the door prize drawings.

WRA Choral Society Open to New Members For Holiday Season

The Library of Congress Welfare and Recreation Association (WRA) Choral Society invites interested staff members to join their open rehearsals in preparation for the fall and winter concert seasons. Rehearsals are on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 12–12:30 p.m., in the Sub-Basement Lounge, Room LM SO–2.

The Choral Society will perform at the Library of Congress Family Day, Saturday, September 16. They will also give a fall concert at the Brookline Union Baptist Church in Washington, D.C. Holiday performances will include the Annual Christmas Concert in the Mumford Room, the Annual Carol Sing in the Great Hall, and concerts at the Taylor Street Annex and Columbia Senior Citizens Center. Call Reba Barnes, ext. 78198, for further information.

Information Forums In September

The Library of Congress Professional Association welcomes the participation of all interested persons in the following Information Forums in September. These informal brown-bag lunches meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12:10 to 12:40 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

September 5—Performing Arts Forum: "Bulgarian Village Music," Pam Terry, visual art examiner, Copyright Office. Room LM 642.

September 7—Publications Forum: "The Country Studies Book Program," Martha Hopkins, senior technical editor, and Richard Nyrop, handbook production specialist, Federal Research Division. Room LM 642, 11:30 a.m.

September 12—African Studies Forum: "Castles and Kings: Architecture of Royal Ethiopia," Laverle Berry, bibliographer, Copyright Office. Room LM 642, 11:30 a.m.

September 14—Ethnic Resources Forum: "Doing Bibliographic Research on African-American Women," Janet Sims-Wood, head of reference, Moorland-Spingarn Research Center, Howard University. Room LM 642.

September 21—Management Forum: "Appreciating Our Personality Differences: An Introduction to the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator," Alden Lancaster, training and management consultant. Dining Room A.

Staff Activities

Doris A. Hamburg, head, Paper Conservation Section, and several other members of the Library of Congress Conservation Office, attended the 17th Annual Meeting of the American Institute for Conservation of Artistic and Historic Works (AIC), held in Cincinnati, Ohio,

STAFF NEWS

May 30–June 4.

Ms. Hamburg spoke at the General Session on the topic, "The Washington Haggadah: Conservation of a 15th-Century Vellum Manuscript." She was also elected to the AIC Board of Directors.

Judith Munn, rare book conservator, addressed the Wood Artifacts Specialty Group on the subject "Treatment Techniques for Vellum Covered Furniture by Carlo Bugatti." **Sylvia Rodgers Albro,** paper conservator, was elected secretary/treasurer of the Book and Paper Specialty Group. Other Library of Congress conservators attending the meeting were **Pamela Spitzmueller, Sarah Bertalan,** and intern **Nancy Nitzberg.**

Frederick M. Kaiser, specialist in American national government, Congressional Research Service, has written an article titled, "The Amount of Classified Information: Causes, Consequences, and Correctives to a Growing Concern." It appeared in the *Government Information Quarterly,* Vol. 6, No. 3, pages 247–266.

The findings of the study, which examined the reasons for the continuing increase in the volume of classified national security information, have implications for the holdings of the Library of Congress and of all Federal depository libraries.

Personnel Changes

Appointments: Brenda J. Alexis, clerk-typing, GS–5, CRS PGM SB, 90249; David Applegate, library aid, GS–3, Ser, G106M; Janice Hyde, clerk, GS–5, CRS C, 90237; Berma J. Jackson, clerk, GT–4, Photodup, 90215; Tambra L. Johnson, registrar, GS–11, Exh, 90240; Callie E. Mosley, telephone operator, GS–4, NLS/BPH, 90257; Kareen M. Reis, library technician-typing, GS–6, CRS A, 90218; Janet M. Smith, library aid, GS–3, Ser, G106M; Nora J. Bardak, project manager payroll conversion, GS–15, Mgmt, 90250; Charles A. Baughman, library technician, GS–5, CRS E, 90248; Caroline G. Longmoor, librarian, GS–11/6, NLS/BPH, 90074; Dawn M. Nuschler, management assistant (typing), GS–5, CRS EPW, 90273; JoAnn Walker, clerk, GS–5, CRS, 90237; James Wright, communication specialist, GS–9, Telecom Services, 90269.

Temporary Appointments: Sony M. Austin, library aid, GS–1, Col Mgmt, 9WKSY; Nedra A. Cort, library aid, GS–1, E & G, 8WKSY; Joseph A. DeMarie, inquiries recorder, GS–7, CRS PGM IQ; Joyce T. Flood, worker trainee, GS–1, Health 8WKSY; Kenneth Jenkins, library technician, GS–4, Col Mgmt; Ahmed J. Johnson, library aid, GS–1, Col Mgmt, 9WKSY; Sherisse Kearney, clerk, GS–1, Cop Rec & Proc; Gordon A. Kirsch, clerk, GS–4, CRS C, 90255; Charles B. Malry, library technician, GS–4, Col Mgmt, G118I; Tereska L. Parker, clerk, GS–1, NLS/BPH, 8WKSY; Andrew O. Robb, conservator aid, GS–5, Conserv; Melissa Y. Barnes, clerk, GS–1, Cop Inf & Ref, 9WKSY; Linda Bobo, library technician, GS–5, NLS/BPH; Tia L. Cunningham, library aid, GS–2, E & G; Cecil E. Dixon Jr., clerk, CRS L, 90260; Dwight R. Hawkins, library technician, GS–4, Col Mgmt, G119I; Pat A Hughes, exhibits specialist, GS–7, Exh; Traci L. Jackson, library technician, GS–4, Col Mgmt, G118I; Darnell J. Moody, library aid, Col Mgmt, 9WKSY; Laquita K. Myers, library aid, GS–1, Col Mgmt; Eric Ricky Williams, library technician, GS–4, Col Mgmt, G118I.

Reappointments: Shirlitta A. Colna-Francia, library technician, GS–4, Ser; Eric E. Hodges, library technician, GS–5, MSS, 9T023.

Promotions: Doris M. Craig, administrative assistant, GS–9, NP, 90375; Annie Koonce, senior production assistant, GS–7, CRS E, 90292; Kathryn Scuka, supervisory librarian, GS–13, Share Cat, 90300; Marietta Sharperson, senior production assistant, GS–7, CRS E, 90292; Mia F. Smith, editorial assistant, GS–7, Net Dev/MSO, 90315; Julia M. Watson, secretary, GS–5, Share Cat, 90373; Craig D'Ooge, public affairs specialist, GS–13, NP, 90231; David W. Jones, communication specialist, GS–9, Mgmt ASO, 90269; Toloria Payne, operations assistant, GS–8, Proc, 90402; Diann Pope, secretary, GS–6, Res, 90389.

Resignations: LaTaunya D. Howard, clerk-typist, GS–1, Cop Exam; Jennifer LaPoint, analyst in social legislation, GS–9, CRS; Theon R. Parker, clerk, GS–3, Cop Acq; Bridget Flanagan, payroll technician, GS–6, Payroll; Laura Fletcher, copyright examiner, GS–11, Cop Exam; Emery Lewis, library technician, GS–6, Mus; Evan Nesbitt, laborer, WG–3, M/B/RS; Eric Jeter, clerk, GS–1, COP; Ronald Jeter, reference assistant, GS–4, CRS Gov; LaTonya B. Hughes, library aid, GS–3, Spec Mat; Wendy Morton, senior clerk typist, GS–4, Cop; Brenda Nolan, correspondence clerk, GS–5, Cop Exam; May Schubert, clerk, GS–4, CRS.

Staff Carpool Locator

Rider/driver seeks to join carpool from N. Arlington area, near Rt. 66, exit 22. Flexitime; prefer early schedule. Call Khanh Nguyen, ext. 79828.

Meetings and Events Around the Library

Tuesday, September 5
☐ "Bulgarian Village Music," Pam Terry, visual art examiner, Copyright Office. LC Professional Association (LCPA). Room LM 642, 12:10 p.m.

Thursday, September 7
☐ "The Country Studies Book Program," Martha Hopkins, senior technical editor, and Richard Nyrop, handbook production specialist, both of the Federal Research Division. LCPA. Room LM 642, 11:30 a.m.

Friday, September 8
☐ "A Passion for Liberty: Alexis de Tocqueville on Democracy and Revolution," exhibition opens. (Runs through October 29.) Great Hall, Jefferson Building.

Tuesday, September 12
☐ "Castles and Kings: Architecture of Royal Ethiopia," Laverle Berry, bibliographer, Copyright Office. LCPA. Room LM 642, 11:30 a.m.

Wednesday, September 13
☐ "New Challenges to Human Rights in Latin America," Alexander Wilde, Washington Office on Latin America. Library of Congress Hispanic Cultural Society. Room LM 139, 12 noon.

Thursday, September 14
☐ "Doing Bibliographic Research on African-American Women," Janet Sims-Wood, head of reference, Moorland-Spingarn Research Center, Howard University. Room LM 642, 12:10 p.m.

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